GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:472
ANSWERED ON:06.02.2017
Fund for Tamil Nadu
Senthilnathan Shri PR.;Sundaram Shri P.R.

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received any request from various State Governments pending funds committed in the approved plan of the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan Scheme during the last three years despite the States having submitted all necessary documentation well in time and having met all their commitments and performance parameters;
(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government to expedite the release of the same;
(c) the total Education Cess collected during the last three years, year-wise and the distribution of the same to various States/UTs during the corresponding periods; and
(d) the corrective steps taken by the Union Government to avoid any shortfalls in approved central share release under SSA?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(SHRI UPENDRA KUSHWAHA)
(a) to (d): The SSA has been designated as the vehicle for implementing the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009. Section 7(1) of the RTE Act, 2009, states that both the Centre and the State shall have concurrent responsibility for providing funds for carrying out the provisions of the Act. Section 7(2) states that estimates for implementing the Act shall be prepared and the PAB outlay may be taken as the estimates prepared in compliance with this sub-section. Further, Section 7(3) states that the Central Government shall provide to the State Government, as grants-in-aid of revenues, such percentage of expenditure as it may determine, while, Section 7(5) states that the State Government shall, taking into consideration the sums provided by the Central Government to a State Government, be responsible to provide funds for the implementation of the provisions of the Act.
With the acceptance of the recommendations of the 14th Finance Commission by the Government of India, the devolution of funds to the States has been increased from 32% to 42 % of the net Union Tax Receipts. With the enhanced devolution of funds, States may consider allocating more funds to SSA so as to carry out the functions and responsibilities conferred upon the States by Section 7(5) of the RTE Act, 2009.
It is, therefore, clear that the responsibility for meeting the fund requirement vests with both the Centre and the States.
The details of amount collected through education cess during the last three years are as given below:
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(Rs in crores)
Financial Year Funds collected as Education Cess
2012-13 30641.47
2013-14 33902.37
2014-15 35986.13
2015-16 21030.48*

* Provisional figure up to January/February, 2016
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The proceeds of Primary Education Cess are credited to Prarambhik Shiksha Kosh (PSK) and are used to meet part of expenditure on SSA and Mid Day Meal (MDM) Schemes. There is no separate fund to credit Secondary and Higher Education Cess and funds required for secondary and higher education are directly allocated through budgetary provisions. State-wise data regarding utilization of cess is not maintained.
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